

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
 MARGARET CHAPPUIS
 ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY MATERIALS, INC.
 7 COMMERCE DRIVE
 DANBURY, CT 06810

PCT

FEB 27 2006

MOORE & VAN ALLEN, PLLC

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
 THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND
 THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
 SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

15 FEB 2006

FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International filing date
(day/month/year) 15 November 2004 (15.11.2004)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
645 PCT

International application No.
PCT/US04/38043

Applicant
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY MATERIALS, INC.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile No.: (41-22) 338.82.70.

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.

3. With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. Reminders

Shortly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.

Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.

In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.

See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US
 Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

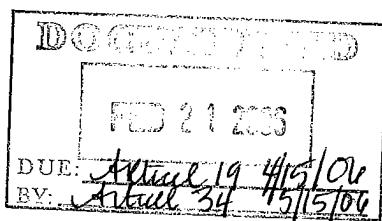
Authorized officer

Duy-Vu N. Deo

Telephone No. 571-272-1462

(See notes on accompanying sheet)

Form PCT/ISA/220 (January 2004)



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 645 PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small> | |
| International application No. PCT/US04/38043 | International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 15 November 2004 (15.11.2004) | (Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 November 2003 (17.11.2003) |
| Applicant ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY MATERIALS, INC. | | |

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 7 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the Report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

the international application in the language in which it was filed.

a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II)

3. Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III)

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. _____

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/38043

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) : B24B 1/00, 11/00; H01L 21/302, 21/461
US CL : 51/295, 298, 398; 438/690-693

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 51/295, 298, 398; 438/690-693

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

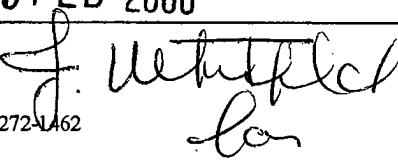
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | US 6,337,281 (James et al.) 8 Jan. 2002, | |
| — | | |
| Y | | |
| A | US 6,354,929 (Adefris et al.) 12 Mar. 2002 | 1-22 |
| A | US 6,477,926 (Swisher et al.) 12 Nov. 2002 | 1-22 |
| A | US 2002/0004357 (Baker, III et al.) 10 Jan. 2002 | 1-22 |
| A | US 5,934,980 (Koos et al.) 10 Aug. 1999, fig. 2 | 22 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. | <input type="checkbox"/> | See patent family annex. |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|

| | | | |
|-----|---|-----|--|
| * | Special categories of cited documents: | | |
| "A" | document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "T" | later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "E" | earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date | "X" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "L" | document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "Y" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "O" | document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | "&" | document member of the same patent family |
| "P" | document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Date of the actual completion of the international search 06 February 2006 (06.02.2006) | Date of mailing of the international search report 15 FEB 2006 |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201 | Authorized officer Duy-Vu N. Deo Telephone No. 571-272-1462  |

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
MARGARET CHAPPUIS
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY MATERIALS, INC.
7 COMMERCE DRIVE
DANBURY, CT 06810

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

15 FEB 2006

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 645 PCT | | FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below | |
| International application No. | International filing date (day/month/year) | Priority date (day/month/year) | |
| PCT/US04/38043 | 15 November 2004 (15.11.2004) | 17 November 2003 (17.11.2003) | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC IPC(7): B24B 1/00, 11/00; H01L 21/302, 21/461 and US Cl.: 51/295, 298, 398; 438/690-693 | | | |
| Applicant ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY MATERIALS, INC. | | | |

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201 | Date of completion of this opinion 06 February 2006 (06.02.2006) | Authorized officer Duy-Vu N. Deo Telephone No. 571-272-1462 |
|--|---|---|

Form PCT/ISA/237 (cover sheet) (April 2005)

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/US04/38043

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

the international application in the language in which it was filed
 a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

on paper
 in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing

contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in electronic form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/US04/38043

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims <u>6-8 and 17</u> | YES |
| | Claims <u>1-5,9-16 and 18-22</u> | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims <u>6-8 and 17</u> | YES |
| | Claims <u>1-5,9-16 and 18-22</u> | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims <u>1-22</u> | YES |
| | Claims <u>NONE</u> | NO |

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1-5, 9-19, 21 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by James et al. (US 6,337,281).

James describes a CMP pad comprising : polyurethane including polyol, diisocyanate (col. 5, lines 50-64) forming claimed organic polymer, which would be reactive with any of the materials listed in claim 4; an oxidizing metal complexes, iron salts to promote oxidation of the metal layer to its corresponding oxide (claimed metal agent compatible with a metal of a metal feature)

The pad further comprises matrix materials as continuous phase including esters sulfone, which would provide claimed polyester or polyulfone (col. 3, line 33-55).

Referring to claims 9, 21, the pad is used to polish metal on a substrate (col. 1, line 44-52).

Referring to claims 11-13, 15, 16 the pad and the chemicals in pad would have the same properties since they are the same chemicals as that of the claimed invention.

Referring to claim 18, the method of mixing the chemicals to form the pad would have to have foaming and curing agent since the method includes foaming and curing steps (col. 6, line 60, 57; col. 8, line 56; col. 10, line 66; col. 11, line 8).

Claims 19, 22 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over James.

Referring to claim 19, sawing the pad from a log is obvious in order to produce the pad. Referring to claim 22, having the pad and the wafer moving or rotating in different direction are well known to one skilled in the art during the polishing of the wafer (please see cited Koos et al. US 5,934,980, fig. 2).

Claims 6-8, 17, meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the metal agent includes a metal B-diketonate.

Claims 1-22 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus meet industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.